

Cruisers Yachts 48 Cantius

By Bill Jennings



With a company history that can be traced back to 1904, Cruisers Yachts has a simple vision. The Oconto, Wisconsin-based boat builder has never aimed to be the largest yacht manufacturer in the world. Rather, it's always been about the experience – making really nice yachts and offering really great customer service. It's also been about embracing innovation, and perhaps no model embodies this more than the all-new 48 Cantius.

Built for ongoing enjoyment as opposed to ongoing maintenance, the 48 Cantius is a modern design with a practical layout featuring an upper helm, upper and lower salons, walk-through windshield and dual entrance cockpit. Our review boat – hull number one – featured a bright white fibreglass hull that sharply contrasted the dark wood flooring and clear main salon glass, creating a crisp, futuristic, monochromatic effect.

Wide gunnels and stainless grab rails lead to the foredeck relaxation area, with its chaise lounge cushion pit, security rails and drink holders. In contrast to the quiet relaxing moments offered by

an oversized swim platform. This full beam play platform has flush tie-down grids and a hide-away boarding ladder. Two pop-up cleats prevent stubbing your toe when in bare feet. A hydraulic lift feature is optional. Lifting the back of the transom seating accesses a cavernous storage space for fenders, lines and water toys.

The interior layout of the Cantius makes the most of available space. There are two staterooms with heads, plus the aforementioned upper and lower salons. You enter the upper salon through a full width tri-slide upper glass door. My first impression of the upper salon can be summed up in one word – bright! You're surrounded by a full 360 degrees of large windows, representing more than 165 square feet of glass. A power-actuated sunroof, 35 square feet in size, includes a sliding sunshade to keep temperatures cool. Of course exact temperatures can be dialed in using a combination of the 64,000 BTU heating system and air conditioning. This provides the bonus of being able to use your boat in early spring and late fall.

When the sun sets, sixteen spot lamps are available for continued brightness. A lounge seat for six is upholstered in white, super-soft ultra-leather. This same material is used on cabin walls for a soft and rich interior. A double wing table offers practicality, quality and beauty – practicality in that it can double in size, quality in its solid mount and super hinge system, and beauty in its highly polished wood and detailed inlay.

When most boaters hear the term 'walk-thru-windshield' they imagine a difficult climb through a small aperture. Not the case with the Cantius. Large gentle steps and a square stainless railing lead to a full portside door built into the windshield, through which you can comfortably transition between the salon and the foredeck. Other salon features include a wet bar, trash container and bottle storage racks, behind which a flat screen 32-inch Sony Bravia television sits on a high/low mechanism for out-of-sight storage.

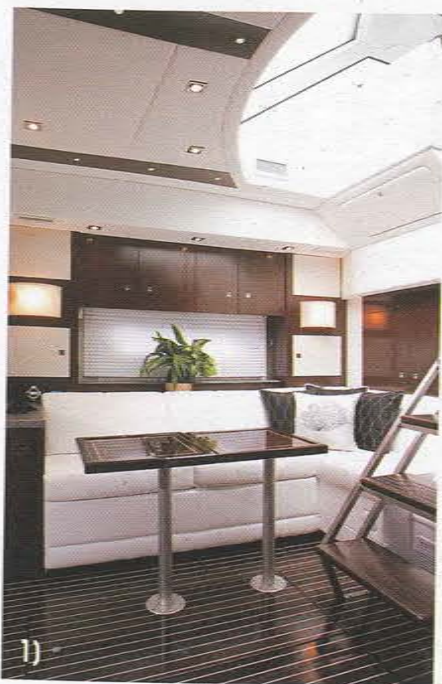
On the starboard side of the salon is a full helm with multi function, digital electronics that include twin Raymarine E120Y hybrid touch screen units and the new Volvo Penta seven-inch digital instrumentation panel. Sixteen switches are conveniently placed to the left of the panel. The captain's chair

Main photo) The 48 Cantius is a modern design with a practical layout featuring an upper helm, upper and lower salons, walk-through windshield and dual entrance cockpit.

2) The helm station features twin Raymarine E120Y hybrid touch screen units and the new Volvo Penta seven-inch digital instrumentation panel.

3) The galley includes an upright stainless fridge and freezer, Cuisinart microwave/convection oven, electric stove and double sink, all set along a spacious countertop of speckled gray Karadon.





1) Six wide steps with a square stainless railing lead down to the lower salon, with its wood dining table and an entertainment center.

2) The interior layout of the Cantius features 360 degrees of large windows, representing more than 165 square feet of glass.

has a flip-lip seat for driving in the standing or seated position. To the right of a small diameter leather wheel is the signature control for all Volvo Penta IPS drives – a simple joystick. Throttles and shifters are placed further to starboard.

From the main salon, six wide steps with a square stainless railing lead down to the lower salon. Lots of yachts utilize a galley-down design but Cruisers Yachts has expanded the galley on their Cantius to include a large L shaped settee, wood dining table and an entertainment center – the combination of which effectively creates a second salon. Two side windows, an open transition between the two salons, ceilings nearly seven feet high with dozens of spot lamps, carries the brightness feature down into the lower salon. The galley includes an upright stainless fridge and freezer, Cuisinart microwave/convection oven, electric stove and double sink, all set along a spacious countertop of speckled gray Karadon. I'm sure that the lower salon has set some sort of world record for storage, because this area alone houses no less than 24 drawers and cupboards.

A queen-sized island berth with storage under and a round hatch over, dominates the forward stateroom. There are two full height cedar-lined closets. The head also opens to the lower salon but to provide privacy for stateroom guests, there is a totally separate shower room.

The aft master stateroom, with queen sized island berth has a full six feet, six inches of headroom.

Built in features include a large vanity, two full height cedar-lined closets, dresser and strategically placed porthole windows. Inside the private head are stylish fixtures, an exhaust fan and a fully enclosed shower stall. A com-

binator washer/dryer can be installed in the port closet.

The aft deck floor is the engine room hatch and once opened you can climb down a six-rung ladder to the non-skid metal floor with five feet, four inches headroom. Your choice of power is a twin Volvo Penta, six-cylinder IPS500 or an IPS600, with the 500 rated at 352 horsepower and 600 at 418 horsepower respectively. The powerful 15.5 KW generator will more than handle the electrical power demands during your voyage.

Some boats of this size can provide similar dockside amenities but when they leave the dock they perform like a slug. Here's the big difference with the Cantius. We began our sea trial by backing out of the slip into a narrow channel. Then pressing the Volvo IPS joystick to one side we moved fully sideways for several hundred feet until we were clear of all obstructions. Applying the twin throttles, the Cantius 48 lifted easily onto plane while retaining forward visibility. The expansive glass gives the captain an unobstructed view. Turns were accomplished with the ease of a much smaller boat. A comfortable cruise seemed to be 3,200 rpm, which produced 30 mph on the GPS. Striking waves at speed did produce some noticeable thump sounds that echoed up from the lower salon, but the waves themselves could be barely felt from the salon seats. Taking it to full throttle moved the speed to 37.7 mph at 3,620 rpm. With more than 1,800 pounds of fuel and seven adults onboard, these numbers are truly impressive.

There is much to like about the Cantius 48. It's a big step up from the Cruisers 420 and while it delivers a big yacht feel, it is simple to operate and easy to maintain. It's a winner. ☑

CRUISERS YACHTS CANTIUS 48

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| LOA: | 48' 6" |
| Beam: | 14' 6" |
| Draft: | 42" |
| Clearance w. Hardtop: | 12' 6" |
| Fuel Capacity: | 1,514L / 400 gal. |
| Water Capacity: | 302L / 80 gal. |
| Waste Capacity: | 189L / 50 gal. |
| Weight: | 14,832 kg / 32,700 lbs. |
| Power (Max): | Twin Volvo Penta, IPS 600 |
| Power (as reviewed): | Twin Volvo Penta, IPS 600 |
| Retail price (base): | \$950,000 |
| Retail price (as reviewed): | \$950,000 |

Quoted setup may not be exactly as depicted in photos. Prices are subject to currency fluctuations and do not include freight, DPI or additional optional equipment.

REVIEW BOAT PROVIDED BY

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